

Serial No.: 09/595,531

9. (Amended) A headrest assembly for connecting a headrest with respect to a seat frame of a vehicle, the headrest assembly comprising:

a headrest guide having two sleeves, each sleeve forming a channel, the two sleeves rigidly connected with respect to one another so that the channel of each sleeve is parallel with the other, the headrest guide forming an integrally molded, unitary component;

a headrest insert [having a flexible coupling]; and

two generally parallel rods, each rod fixed at one end with respect to the headrest insert and slideable at an opposite end with respect to one channel in the headrest guide.

Please cancel Claims 10 and 12.

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11. (Amended) The headrest assembly of Claim 9 wherein the headrest guide is connected with respect to [a] the seat frame of a vehicle.

Please cancel Claims 14-20.

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Please add the following claims:

21. A headrest assembly for connecting a headrest to a seat frame, the headrest assembly comprising:

a headrest guide attached to the seat frame and forming a unitary molded component having two sleeves, each sleeve forming a channel wherein centerlines of each channel are parallel with respect to one another; and

a headrest insert having two generally parallel rods, each rod fixed at one end with respect to the headrest insert and slideable at an opposite end with respect to one channel in the headrest guide.

22. The headrest assembly of Claim 21 further comprising:

a plurality of rigid struts extending between the two sleeves.

23. The headrest assembly of Claim 21 wherein each sleeve of the two sleeves further includes at least one retaining clip positioned with respect to an outer surface of the sleeve.

24. The headrest assembly of Claim 21 wherein each sleeve of the two sleeves further comprises a receptacle positioned within a top portion of the sleeves, the receptacle for engaging a headrest cap.

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~~25~~ The headrest guide of Claim ⁴~~21~~ wherein the headrest guide is connected to a guide frame that is further positioned within the seat frame.

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~~26~~ The headrest assembly of Claim ¹⁸~~22~~ wherein the plurality of rigid struts comprise:

F a first horizontal strut positioned between a respective upper region of each ~~sleeve~~ of the two sleeves;

^{B3}
F a second horizontal strut positioned between a respective lower region of each ~~sleeve~~ of the two sleeves; and

F two diagonal struts positioned between the upper region and the lower region of each ~~sleeve~~ of the two sleeves.

¹⁰
~~27~~ The headrest guide of Claim ¹⁸~~22~~ wherein the plurality of rigid struts are integrally molded with respect to the two sleeves.

Applicant urges that there is no additional fee for this Amendment because the number of independent claims remains unchanged and no claims in excess of twenty total claims have been added.